

NEWS RELEASE

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Purdue Ag partners with Sen. Lugar to create forestry program

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - Purdue and U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar have teamed to create a program intended to promote the science of forestry and to offer college scholarships to qualified students attending the university to study certain forestry disciplines.

The Lugar-Purdue Future of Forestry Program and Scholarship asks participating students in grades 9-11 to take an online course about basic forest science, conduct a research project and present their findings in the spring at the Forestry and Natural Resources Research Symposium on Purdue's West Lafayette campus.

"Our future wealth and well-being depend greatly on an understanding of life sciences such as forestry," Lugar said. "Trees and forestry are invaluable to our environment and are a viable and attractive solution to many of the vexing energy, environmental and development problems associated with a growing and more prosperous world. The Lugar-Purdue Future of Forestry Program invites bright, young individuals from all backgrounds to invest in their future by working on these critical challenges."

To be eligible for the program, students must be nominated and sponsored by a high school agricultural education or science teacher. To be eligible for the \$3,000 one-time scholarship, students must complete the project, earn a combined SAT score of at least 1750, a core high school grade point average of at least 3.4 on a 4-point scale and be admitted to Purdue with a major in either forestry or wood products manufacturing technology.

Students who may not qualify for the scholarship are still eligible to participate in the program.

"We're looking for students from Indiana and around the world who are passionate about forest science and forest products so that we can help develop the next generation of professionals committed to enhancing forestry and forest resources," said Rob Swihart, head of Purdue's forestry and natural resources department.

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Interested students and teachers can learn more about and register for the Lugar-Purdue Future of Forestry Program and Scholarship by visiting <http://www.ag.purdue.edu/fnr/Lugar/Pages/default.aspx>. More information also is available by contacting Swihart at 765-494-3590, rswihart@purdue.edu.

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